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Approved For Release 2002/01/29 : CIA-RDP78T02095R000800030015-3

DDI-1653-67

15 May 1967

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT : Commendation

1. This is to pass along the oral compliments of the Director and the Deputy Director at this morning's Executive Committee meeting regarding our performance in putting out two memoranda, "The Current State of Morale in North Vietnam", No. 0642/67, 12 May 1967, and "Bomb Damage Inflicted on North Vietnam Through April 1967", No. 0643/67, 12 May 1967. Admiral Taylor paid particular tribute to the substantive quality of these two pieces of work, saying that he "failed to understand how you can produce work of that much depth and thoroughness on such short deadlines". The Director picked this up, adding his praise for meeting the deadline under extraordinarily difficult circumstances. He said that in this instance, Secretary McNamara was only the paper carrier; the true requester was the President. The Director said he wanted to add his own special thanks for all who played a part.

2. I accepted these compliments with considerable modesty, recognizing that my own role was greatly less strenuous than yours. I also recognize that in an organization like this my reputation and that of the Directorate is sustained by the discipline and performance of a sizeable group of people. You in turn, I am certain, recognize that your achievement rides in part on the work of others, and you will pass these compliments along to all the deserving.

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[REDACTED]

R. J. SMITH  
Deputy Director for Intelligence

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Cy: [REDACTED]

10 MAY 1967

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